December 2015 Volume 7.1

The Belknap Township Newsletter

Supervisor Report...

This summer, you may have noticed the work on S. Rogers Road. This project is estimated to have a total cost of \$200,000 with Belknap Township paying 75% (\$150,000) of the total cost over two years.

The board appreciates your continued support by renewing the Belknap Township Road Millage which generates about \$23,000/year and helps pay for projects like these.

District Forester Provides Free Landowner Assistance

The Presque Isle and Chebovgan Conservation Districts have recently hired Brittany VanderWall to work as the Forestry Assistance Program (FAP) Forester to encourage and enable landowners to more actively manage their woodlands. This position is funded by a grant from the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development. In-office and on-site assistance is provided to all county landowners at no charge and may include: identification of forest diseases and insects and their control options; advice on the selection and planting of trees and shrubs for reforestation, windbreaks, and wildlife habitat enhancement; information on state and federal forestry cost-share and tax incentive programs; and recommendations for improving woodlots for timber production, wildlife habitat or recreation. Referrals to qualified forestry consultants, industry foresters and other natural resource professionals help landowners take the next step in implementing sound forest management practices.

To find out more about these free services, contact Brittany at the Presque Isle Conservation District office at (989) 734-4000, or email her at brittany.vanderwall@macd.org.

Your Township Board

Your Township Board's regularly scheduled meetings are held on the **fourth Monday** of each month. The meetings are held at the Township Hall at 1720 W. 638 Hwy and start at 7:30 pm in summer months and 5:30 pm in winter months. Residents are encouraged to attend.

Allan Berg - Supervisor/Assessor

1117 E Heythaler Hwy Rogers City, MI 49779 989.734.0044 (home) 989.734.3555 (office) berga@assessingoffice.com supervisor@belknaptownship.org

Terry L. Basel - Clerk

2868 W Metz Hwy Hawks, MI 49743 989.734.3694 clerk@belknaptownship.org

Terri Koss - Treasurer

5101 Petersville Rd Rogers City, MI 49779 989.734.8418 treasurer@belknaptownship.org

Harlow Hardies - Trustee

2335 W 638 Hwy Hawks, MI 49743 989.734.4506

Robert Hopp - Trustee

3097 E 638 Hwy Hawks, MI 49743 989.734.4539

County Commissioner

Carl Altman 1104 W. Hawks Hwy, Hawks, MI 49743 989.766.2773

Hall Rentals Contact:

Connie Hopp, Hall Coordinator 989.734.4539

Visit our Web Site http://www.belknaptownship.org

Our webpage includes minutes, budget information, and contact information.

Seeking Opinions and Suggestions...

The Township Board is seeking your input on how to increase the usage of the Township Hall. We invite you to submit your comments and suggestions to the Township Clerk by Jan. 15th. You may email or write in a suggestion. The Clerks email is: clerk@belknaptownship.org and her mailing address is Terry L. Basel, 2868 W. Metz Hwy, Hawks, MI 49743.

The Treasurer's Corner (Terri Koss)...

If your summer taxes are past due please give me a call to get the correct payoff amount. Summer 2015 tax payments will be accepted until February 29, 2016. After that time, you can contact the Presque Isle County Treasurer for payoff amounts. I can be reached at 989/734-8418 or by email at treasurer@belknaptownship.org.

A message from our Township Clerk (Terry L. Basel)...

2016 will be a busy election year, with a Presidential Primary scheduled for early March, in addition to the August and November elections. NOTE: If you need or want to vote via an Absentee Ballot, please contact me by email or phone at your earliest convenience. I will place your name on a list to automatically send you an Absentee Ballot Application at the appropriate time(s). Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Assessing Update - 20% Property Inspections

We are now in the 2nd year of the recommended property inspection project. All notices went out in the spring for those parcels to be inspected this year. The inspections have yet to occur and are scheduled for the upcoming fall months. This inspection is exterior only and will only take 10-15 minutes.

Change of Address

If your mailing address has changed, please notify the <u>Township Treasurer</u> of your new address. Without this information, we are not able to send you your tax bill, assessment notices, and any correspondence that may be needed on a timely basis. Contact information is in the right margin on the front of the newsletter.

Belknap Township Statistics

1990 Population: 9202000 Population: 8542010 Population: 751

Belknap Township Voters:

July 2009: 557

December 2009: 552

October 2010: 561

October 2011: 556

October 2013: 570

October 2014: 569

Voter Turnout:

November, 2010: 273 (49%) November, 2012: 384 (66%) November, 2014: 264 (46.4%)

Belknap Township - Parcel Count

12/31/08: 691 Parcels 12/31/09: 692 Parcels 12/31/10: 693 Parcels 12/31/11: 697 Parcels 12/31/12: 703 Parcels 12/31/13: 709 Parcels 12/31/14: 698 Parcels

Belknap Township - Assessments

2005 Assessment: 30,216,900 2006 Assessment: 32,250,600 2007 Assessment: 33,854,000 2008 Assessment: 34,157,200 2009 Assessment: 33,416,400 2010 Assessment: 31,957,200 2011 Assessment: 30,116,500 2012 Assessment: 27,924,400 2013 Assessment: 28,060,840 2014 Assessment: 28,527,200 2015 Assessment: 28,681,400